

Message Text

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ORIGIN EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AGR-10 AID-05 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07

FRB-01 INR-07 NSAE-00 USIA-15 TRSE-00 XMB-04 OPIC-06

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APPROVED BY EUR/NE JJCROWLEY

LABOR:GHOLMES (PHONE)

EUR/RPE:ECASEY

S/IL:DGOOD

AGRIC:DHUME (SUBS)

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P R 051552Z NOV 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY OSLO PRIORITY

INFO AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ELAB, EAGR, NO

SUBJECT: NORWEGIAN PARLIAMENTARIANS SUPPORT CALIFORNIA

COPENHAGEN FOR LABOR ATTACHE

1. BOYCOTT APPEAL BY PARLIAMENTARIANS CONTAINS MIS-
STATEMENTS OF FACT, ESPECIALLY CONCERNING APPLICATION OF
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PESTICIDES CONTROLS TO CALIFORNIA GROWERS. PESTICIDES ARE

CONTROLLED BY US AND CALIFORNIA STATE REGULATIONS, AND,
TO OUR KNOWLEDGE, NOT AFFECTIONED BY PROVISIONS OF UFW LABOR
CONTRACTS. ALARM RAISED IN BOYCOTT APPEAL CONCERNING
PESTICIDES MISLEADING. OPEN LETTER SOMEWHAT INCONSISTENTLY
SUGGESTS BOYCOTT COULD PROTECT NORWEGIAN CONSUMERS FROM ILL
EFFECTS OF PESTICIDES WHILE AT THE SAME TIME STATING THAT
THESE VERY PESTICIDES ALREADY PROHIBITED BY NORWEGIAN LAW.

2. NORWEGIANS WOULD HAVE PROBLEMS OBSERVING BOYCOTT
IN VIEW OF FACT THAT GRAPE AND LETTUCE GROWERS SELL TO
SHIPPERS WHO CONSOLIDATE SHIPMENTS FOR MOVEMENT OVERSEAS.
MOST SHIPMENTS FROM CALIFORNIA WOULD CONTAINA MIX OF

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UFW-HARVESTED AND TEAMSTER-HARVESTED PRODUCE. ATTEMPTED
BOYCOTT AS SUGGESTED IN PARLIAMENTARIANS' APPEAL WOULD
PROBABLY PENALIZE UFW GRAPES AND LETTUCE AS MUCH AS NON-
UFW PRODUCT.

3. US BOYCOTT HAS BEEN SUPPORTED BY AFL-CIO IN EFFORT TO
HELP UFW ORGANIZING EFFORTS UNDER CALIFORNIA'S NEW
AGRICULTURAL LABOR RELATIONS LAW. ELECTIONS UNDER NEW LAW
ARE NEARLY COMPLETED AND LATEST UNOFFICIAL COUNT SHOWS
UFW WINNING 136 ELECTIONS, TEAMSTERS 90, AND 11 UNITS
VOTING FOR NO UNION. THE RESULTS IN 9 OF ELECTIONS ARE
BEING CONTESTED. ISSUE OF UNION REPRESENTATION SEEMS TO

BE SETTLED FOR MOMENT AND US BOYCOTT HAS LOST ITS MAIN
PURPOSE AND MOST OF ITS STEAM.

4. BOYCOTT APPEAL BY PARLIAMENTARIANS IS ESSENTIALLY
NON-OFFICIAL ACT, BUT EMBASSY MAY WISH TO DRAW ON ABOVE
IN HANDLING QUERRIES ABOUT BOYCOTT AND, IN MANNER EMBASSY
DEEMS APPROPRIATE, TO CORRECT MISINFORMATION CONTAINED
IN PARLIAMENTARIANS' STATEMENT.

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